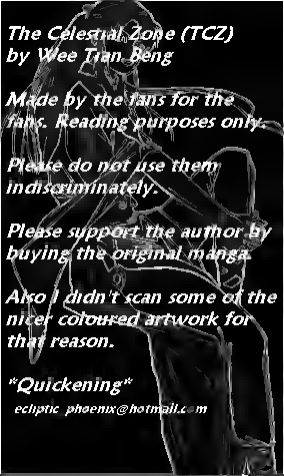
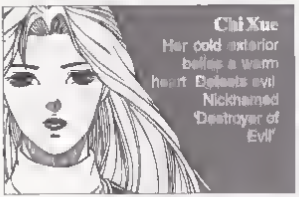
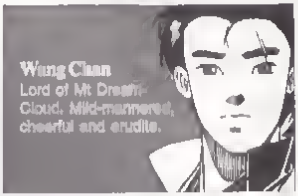
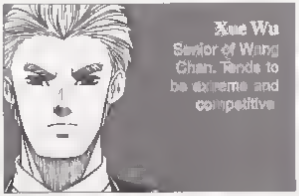
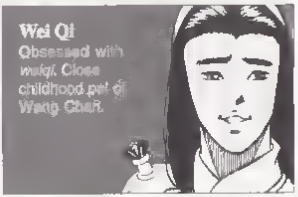

The Celestial Zone (TCZ)
by Wee Tian Beng
Made by the fans for the fans. Reading purposes only.
Please do not use them indiscriminately.
Please support the author by buying the original manga.
Also I didn't scan some of the nicer coloured artwork for that reason.
"Quickening"
ecliptic_phoenix@hotmail.com

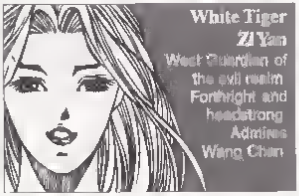
## Characters in this Volume:

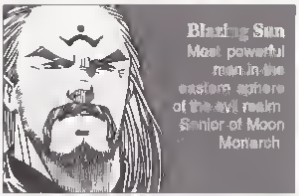


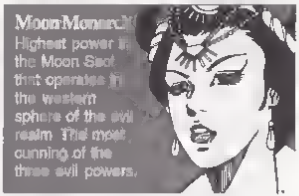



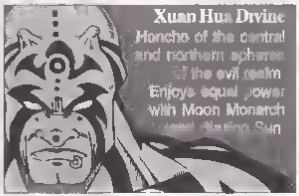




Blazing Sun
Most powerful
eastern sphere
of the evil realm
Senior of Moon
Monarch


Moon Monarch
Highest power in
the Moon Sect
that operates in
the western
sphere of the evil
realm. The most
cunning of the
three evil powers.

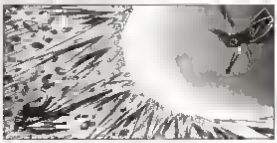
Red Phoenix
A pair of
Chinese twins
serving the
Moon Monarch

Xuan Hua
Tian Yuan
The niece of
Xuan Hua
Divine.
Obsessed
with wealth


Xuan Hua Divine
Monche of the central
and northern spheres
of the evil realm
Enjoys equal power
with Moon Monarch
and Blazing Sun

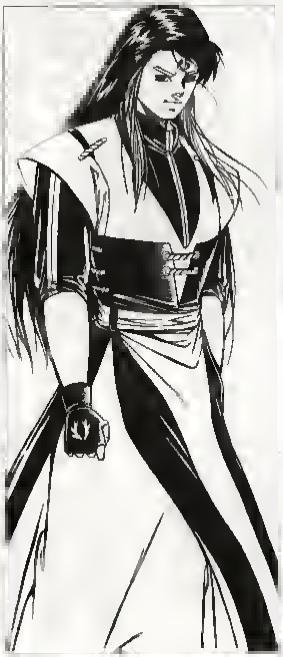
*Chapter Fifty-Three*
**Moon Monarch** *11*

*Chapter Fifty-Four*
**Xuan Hua Tian Yuan** *35*



*Chapter Fifty-Five*
**The True Phoenix** *71*

*Chapter Fifty-Six*
**An Onerous Battle** *109*

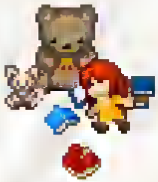


# Recapturing...

The contented inhabitants of Mt Dream-Cloud led a blissful life. Unfortunately, their peaceful paradise was soon to be invaded by evil forces!

Disguised as a girl from a minority tribe, Three-Star Toad attempted to poison the inhabitants of Mt Dream-Cloud. Fortunately, Danian Chuyi saw through her disguise...

The evil forces were out in full force! Moon Monarch sent Red Phoenix to attack Xue Wu while Xuan Hua Divine persuaded Xuan Hua Tian Yuan to take on Wei Qi. Moon Monarch, Blazing Sun and Xuan Hua Divine personally led thousands of followers to Mt Dream-Cloud for a decisive showdown...



*Quickening*

*Thanks for reading TCZ!*
*Please buy the original manga!*

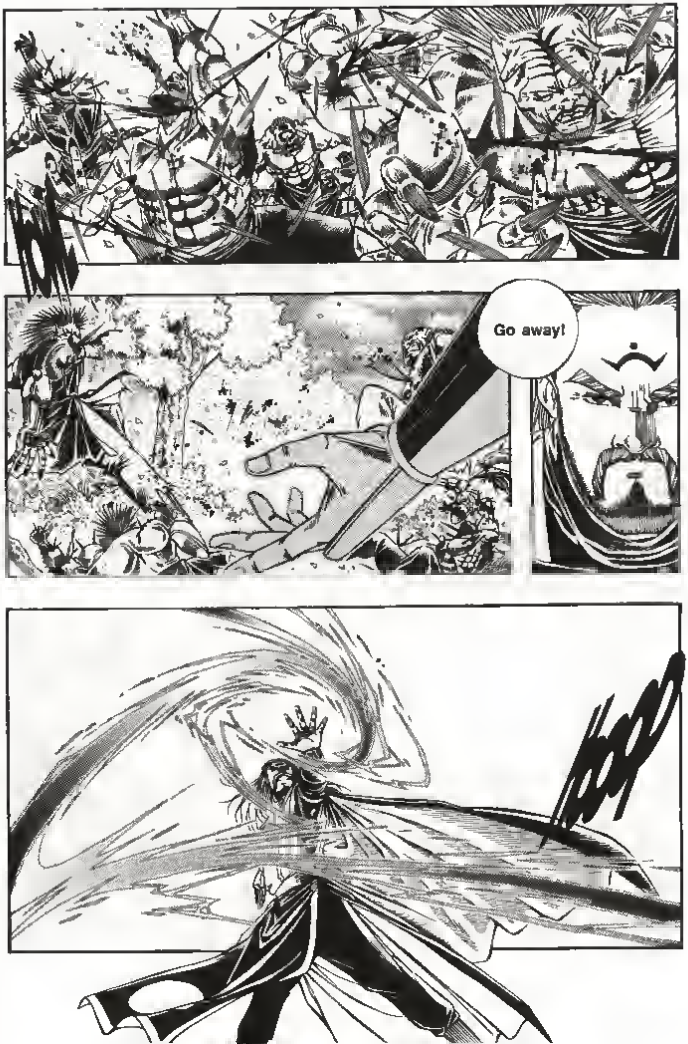
The Eight Sky Ways! Attack the Trap Door at the east!
GRR!
BOOM
KRACK

The formation is activated! Charge!
DEMONIC WAVE!
OGRE PUNCH!
PERPLEXING SPLIT!
KOSH
KOSH

BOOM
BOOM
BOOM

CELESTIAL DRAGON THUNDER FLAME!
Come with me, everybody!

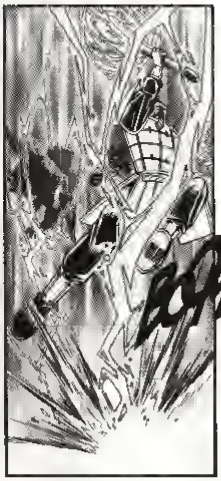
Eight Sky Ways — the Death Door at the south!
BOOM
BOOM
HOOP


Go away!

Hey, when Blazing Sun conquers the Death Door, the power here will be diminished
Only then will I strike to save my energy!
BAP
BAP

Door of Life at the southeast!

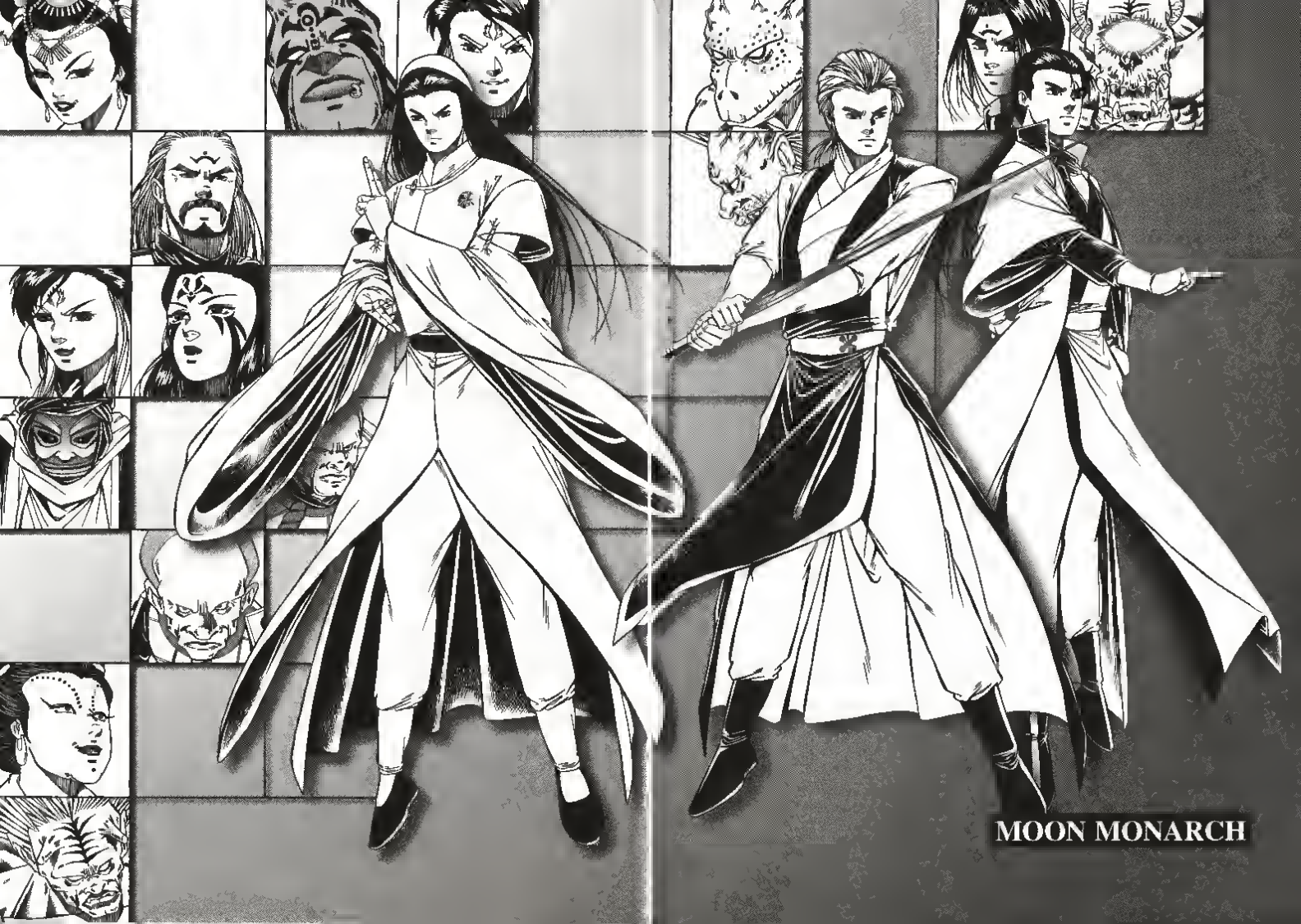
Door of Sacrifice at the northeast!



Door of Pause
at the southwest!

Door of Fear at the west!

Door of Scene
at the northwest!


MOON MONARCH

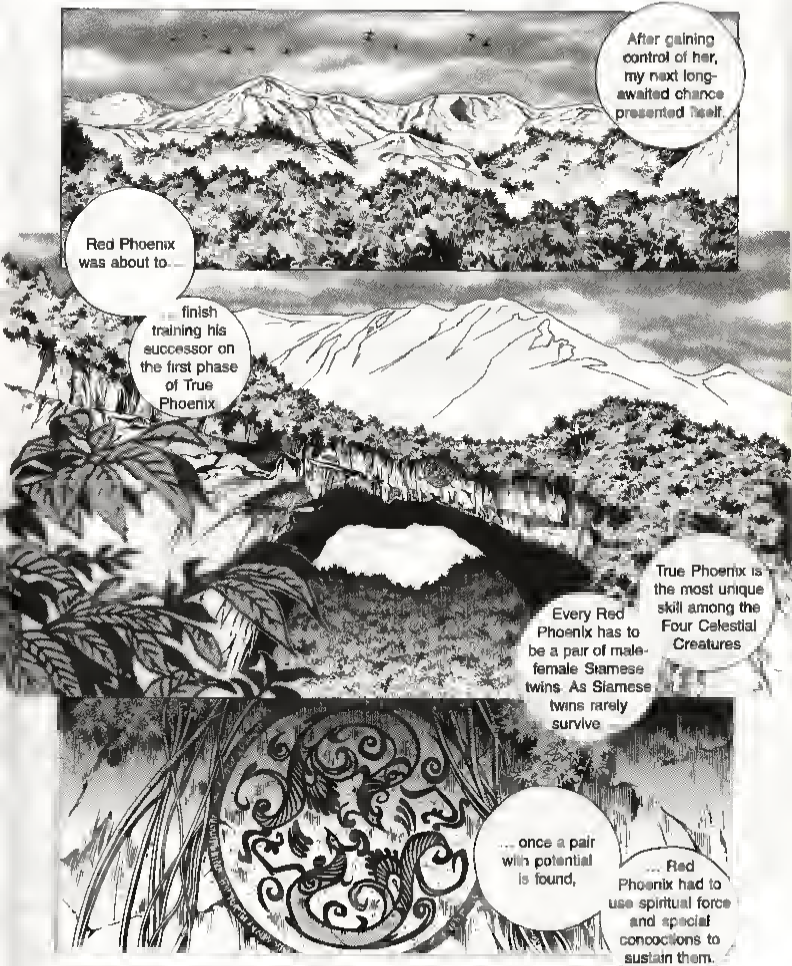
After I combined forces with Blazing Sun and eliminated my teacher, the strongest in the Celestial Zone
I was convinced I had won Blazing Sun's implicit trust.
Also, I had found his only weakness! I could control him!
Blazing Sun and I were both seriously injured, and needed a long time to recuperate

Next, I embarked on my plan...
I was sure that to control the whole Celestial Zone,...
...not only would I have to eliminate the balancing forces — the Four Celestial Creatures,...
...I also had to put them under my thumb!

First, I had to get rid of the than White Tiger, Red Phoenix and Tortoise
With my limited powers, it was no mean feat But
— I had a powerful warrior — Green Dragon Blazing Sun!
As the four guardians were separated, there was little communication
This enabled me to attack them individually

My first target was Lei Lie the White Tiger, who was known for his hot temper and rashness.
Though he was powerful, his simple-mindedness made him an easy target.
With little effort, Blazing Sun and I destroyed him!

Next, by mere trickery, White Tiger's successor became my pawn.
This successor, Zi Yen, is no disappointment
She has become my most able assistent!


After gaining control of her, my next long-awaited chance presented itself.
Red Phoenix was about to...
... finish training his successor on the first phase of True Phoenix
True Phoenix is the most unique skill among the Four Celestial Creatures
Every Red Phoenix has to be a pair of male-female Siamese twins. As Siamese twins rarely survive
... once a pair with potential is found,
... Red Phoenix had to use spiritual force and special concoctions to sustain them.

At that time, Red Phoenix had spent over 10 years on a pair of Siamese twins...
... about to emerge from infancy.
Once they survived that phase, both the twins could live on
But that entailed great spiritual force on the part of Red Phoenix
Blazing Sun and I planned to strike when he had expended his energy...

The power of True Phoenix was no match for our combined forces
After destroying Red Phoenix I took over the grooming of his successors!
The twins had been living under the influence and protection of herbal concoctions and spiritual forces
and had not been exposed to any doctrines at all
Thus, I naturally became their mentor

I found the manual of True Phoenix in the Red Phoenix Nest and began teaching the twins
They were extremely fast learners. Within a few years,
.....they were ready for the co-body training of True Phoenix!
After years of hard work, they finally mastered the third level of True Phoenix last month!
I am keen to find out how powerful their spintual strength is at this stage

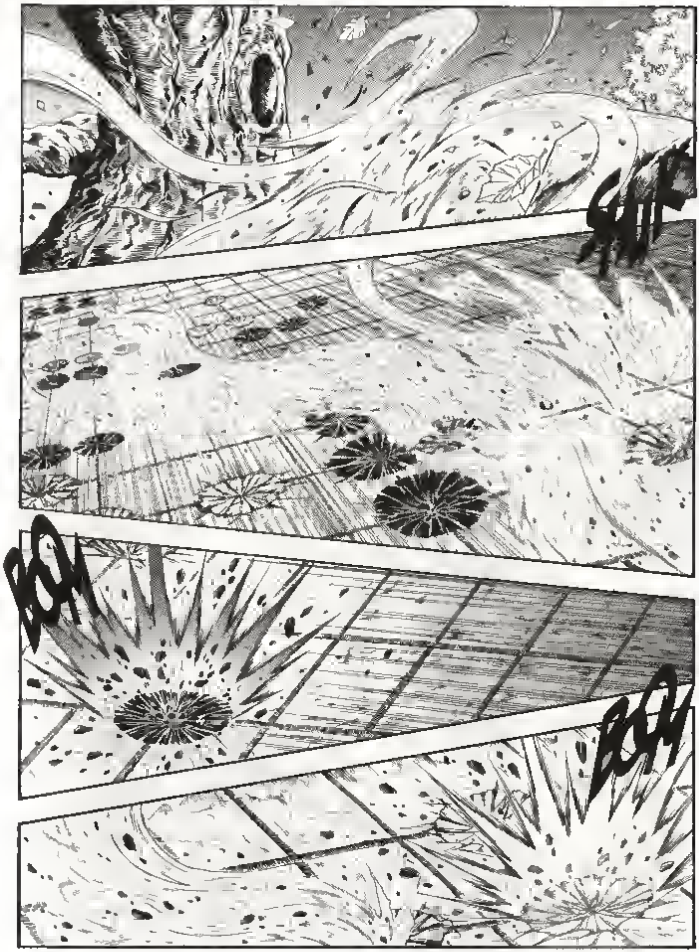
A pity that the remaining guardian, Tortoise, disappeared before my arrival
Though I've been trying hard to trace him, ...
surprisingly, nothing has been found thus far
However, the Green Dragon Pool, White Tiger Ridge, Red Phoenix Nest and Tortoise Cave are all under my power
Though it's less than perfect without Tortoise, it does not affect my powers

Hence, after clearing the major obstacles, I began to expend my power!
Slowly, my power grew. All those in the Celestial Zone who oppose or hinder me —
— have only one choice — surrender! Otherwise, doom awaits them!
Ultimately, Moon Sect shall emerge the strongest in the Celestial Zone!

I still believe thet there is no distinction between good or evil!
The so-called "righteousness" is but an excuse fabricated by defenders.
It's just a perfect excuse for them to justify their own actions
I hate such hypocritical explanations! I act according to my wishes!
Whoever impedes my decisions or actions shall perish!
I detest those who obstruct my freedom! I will not show tolerance!

Finally, we're at one of the last fortresses of righteousness — Mt Dream Cloud!
Blazing Sun you're right It's been a long time since we last joined forces .
I've now understood the principle of "the wise would talk while fools would work"
Why are you tagging along?
Ha, ha! You've impressed me with your composure
— when you gave orders!

Besides, I hear that one would grow in wisdom in the company of clever people
Ha, ha, ha! You have a glib tongue!
Cheep, cheep! Thank you, thank you!
Hee, that beauty must be the leader. I'll never go wrong sucking up to her!
Boy, you're not only despicable, cowardly and thick-skinned, —
— but also an expert in bootlicking!
Ha, ha! Your compliment has brought pride and glory to my ancestors and me!
What a downright despicable man!
Good, I like you! Boy, do you want to be strong?
Huh ?


BOOM
BOOM

XUAN HUA
DEVASTATING
PALMS!
WOOSH
BAPP

(In *weiqi*, the player with black seeds has the right to make the first move. In competitions today, a player with black seeds is required to give five-and-a-half seeds to the opponent to offset his advantage of making the first move.)

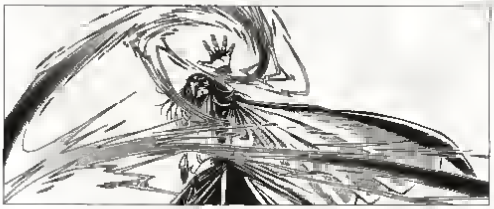
BOOM
SWOOSH
BOOM
INFINITE
DIVINE
HANDS!

What a strong retaliation!
SHuK
Good move!

Just one move and I've been trapped!
BOOM

You are wise to give up this terntory! Brilliant!
Though I've lost three white seeds, I may still salvage the situation.
Good!

# *Quickening*



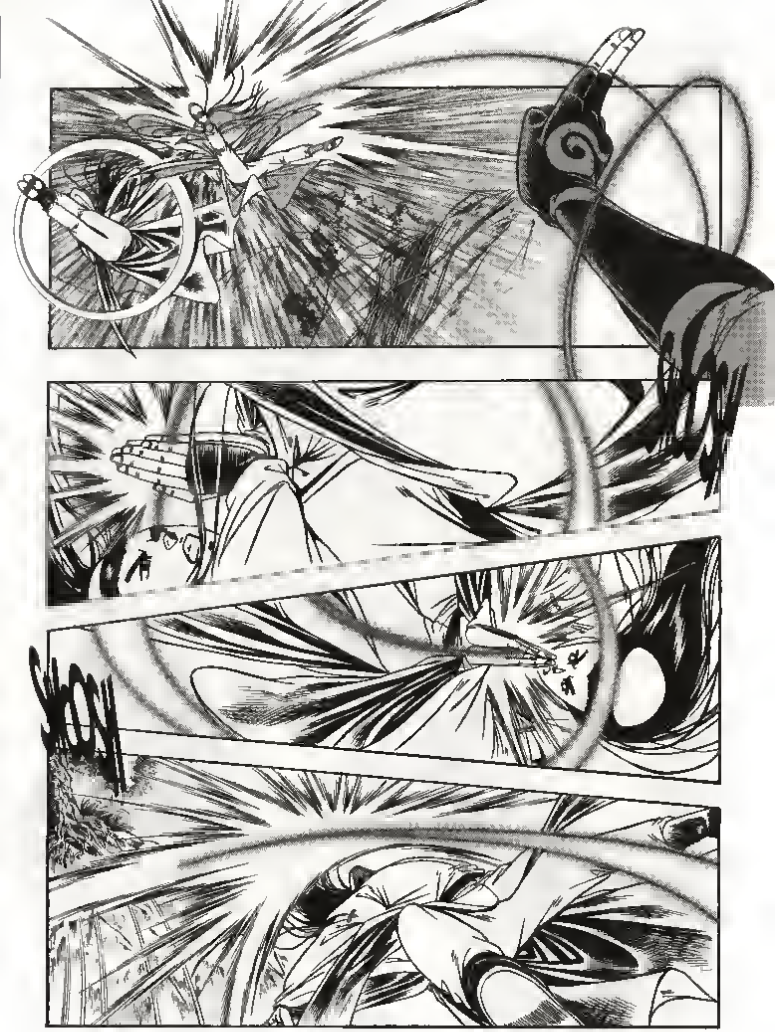
XUAN HUA
TIAN YUAN

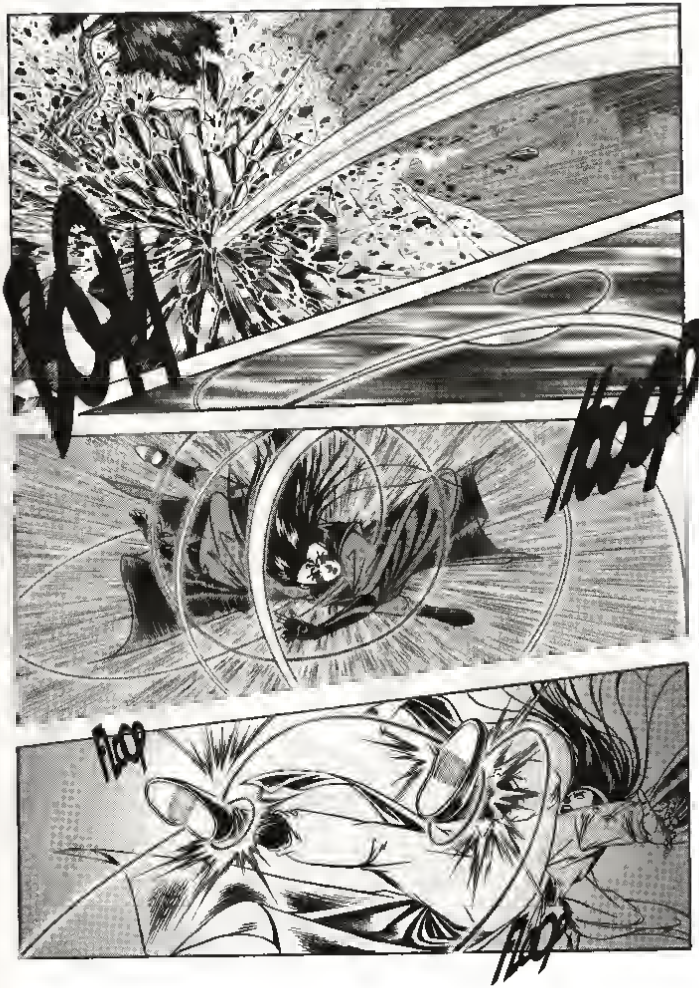
Infiltrate enemy territory when he places a white seed on the right. Attack from the left to maximise the effect of black seeds.
Launch a final attack after I reinforce the power of black seeds.
Swoosh
Xuan Hua Tien Yuan... you're forcing your way into my territory...
...to reinforce your power on the left before attacking my central white seeds!
Whoosh

If I lose my foothold, I'll have no chance to reverse the situation
WOOSH
WOOSH
Ah! He's feeding on the aura of the white seeds to boost his own!
And I'm letting the surrounding aura manipulate mine
Watch out!
WOOSH
WOOSH

It's unwise to meet him head-on!
I must claim this territory and gain a better count in the area.
Swoosh

Wei Qi, try my Tian Yuan Star Search!
WOOSH
WOOSH

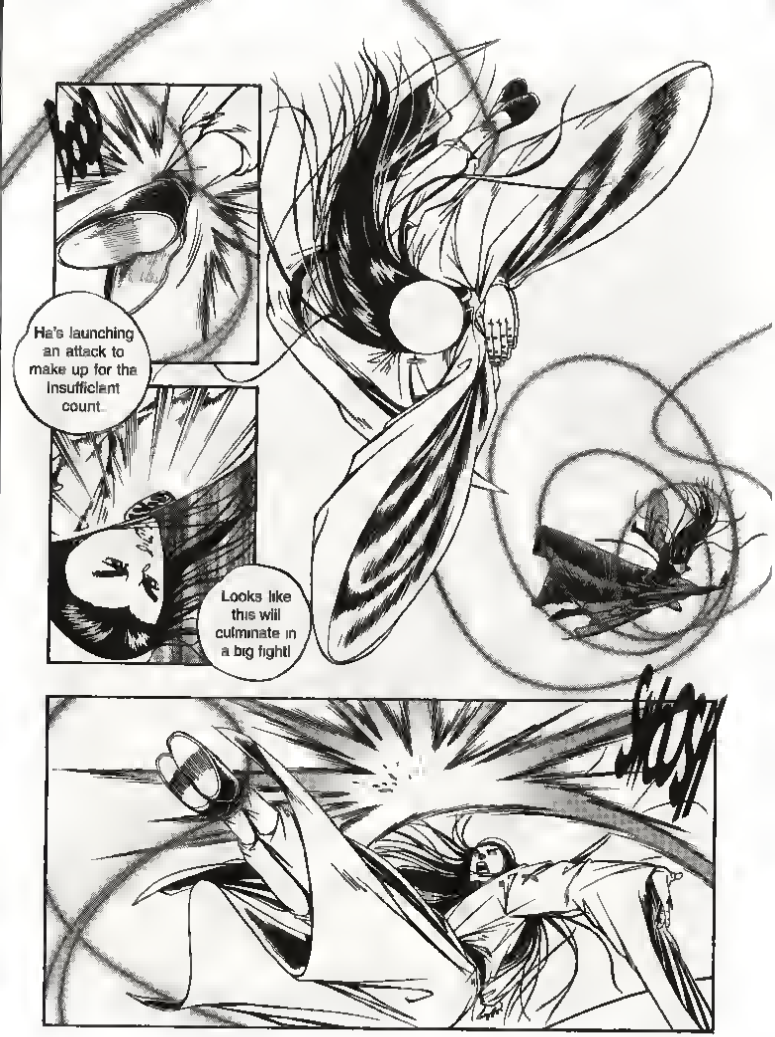

SHOW


WOOSH
FLOOP
FLOOP
FLOOP

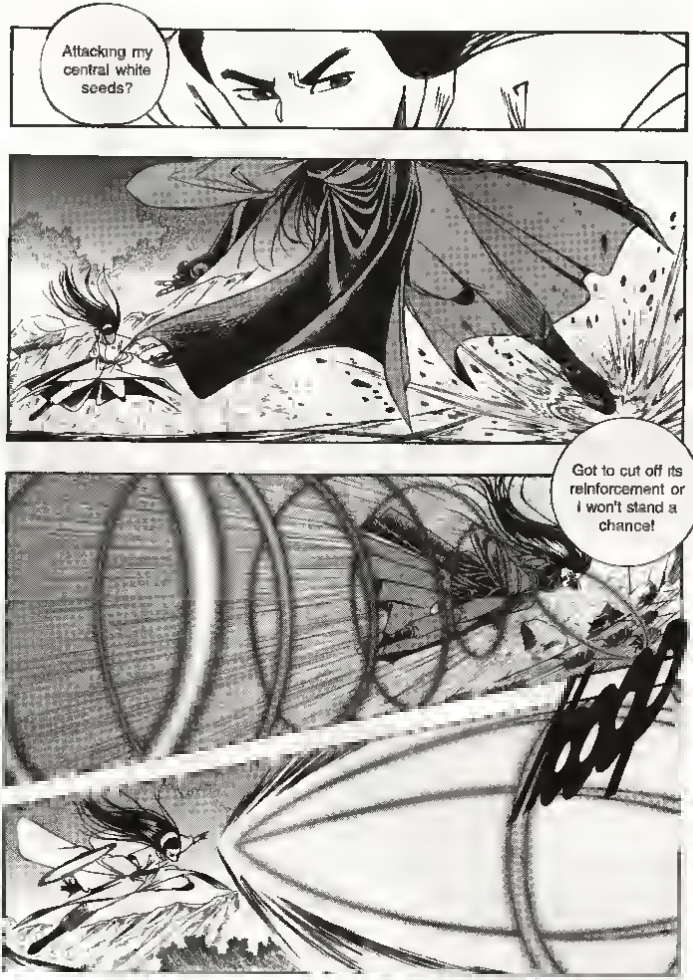
BOOM
BAP
Ha, ha! No one has ever given me such pressure! I like it!
TAIJI SKY WHEEL!
BOOM

That's strong! I've been thrown out!
His strong defence is turning the tables on me
I must stop the spreading of the central white seeds and the work of the "eyes"*!

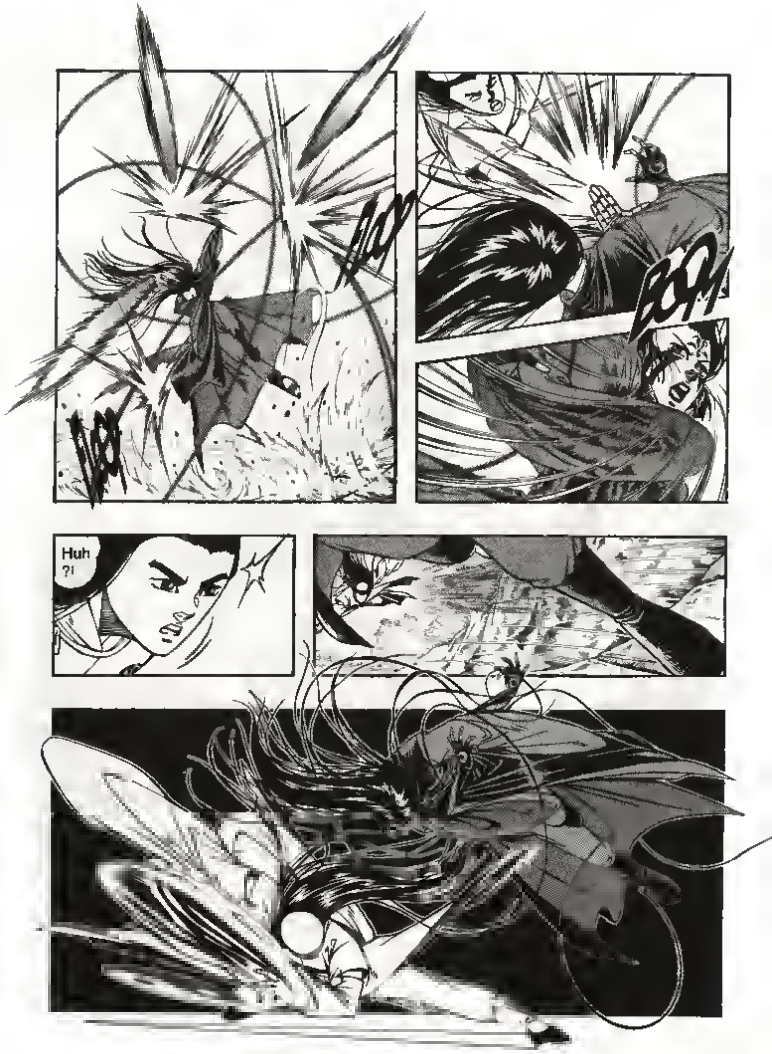
* In weiqi every seed must have a pair of "eyes" in order to survive


He's launching an attack to make up for the insufficient count...
Looks like this will culminate in a big fight!

WOOD
KRASH


Attacking my central white seeds?
Got to cut off its reinforcement or I won't stand a chance!

Good!
!!


BOOM
Huh ?!

TIAN YUAN
STAR OF
KNOTS!

EARTHLY TAIJI MAP!

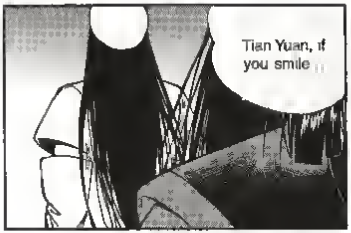
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
SHUK

** Wei Qi's central white seeds joined with the rest all over the board forming a continuous curve. This is known as a "white dragon".*

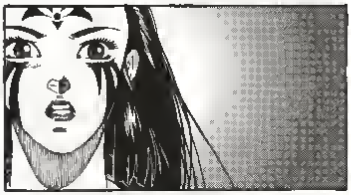
Xuan Hun, Tian Yuan, is something troubling you?
It affected your last manoeuvre, giving me a chance to counter-attack.

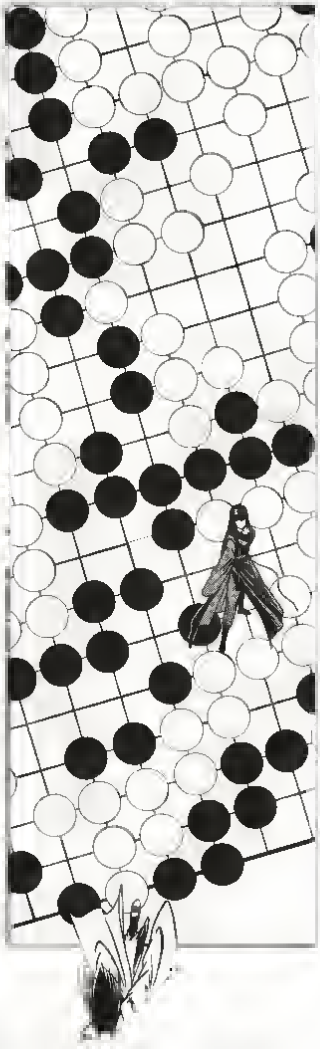
Besides... Tian Yuan... you were not doing your best
You did not kill Crow...
Crow? Sha's dead?
Indeed...
Though you launched a violent attack, you avoided my vital points
From your manoeuvres, I can tell your character.
You're not what my uncle made you out to be

Tian Yuan, though I've won through sheer luck,
I have to leave
I hope that one day, we will have a proper game under friendly circumstances
Wei Qi, my uncle is formidable. Be cautious.


Tian Yuan, if you smile ...

... you would be even more charming.



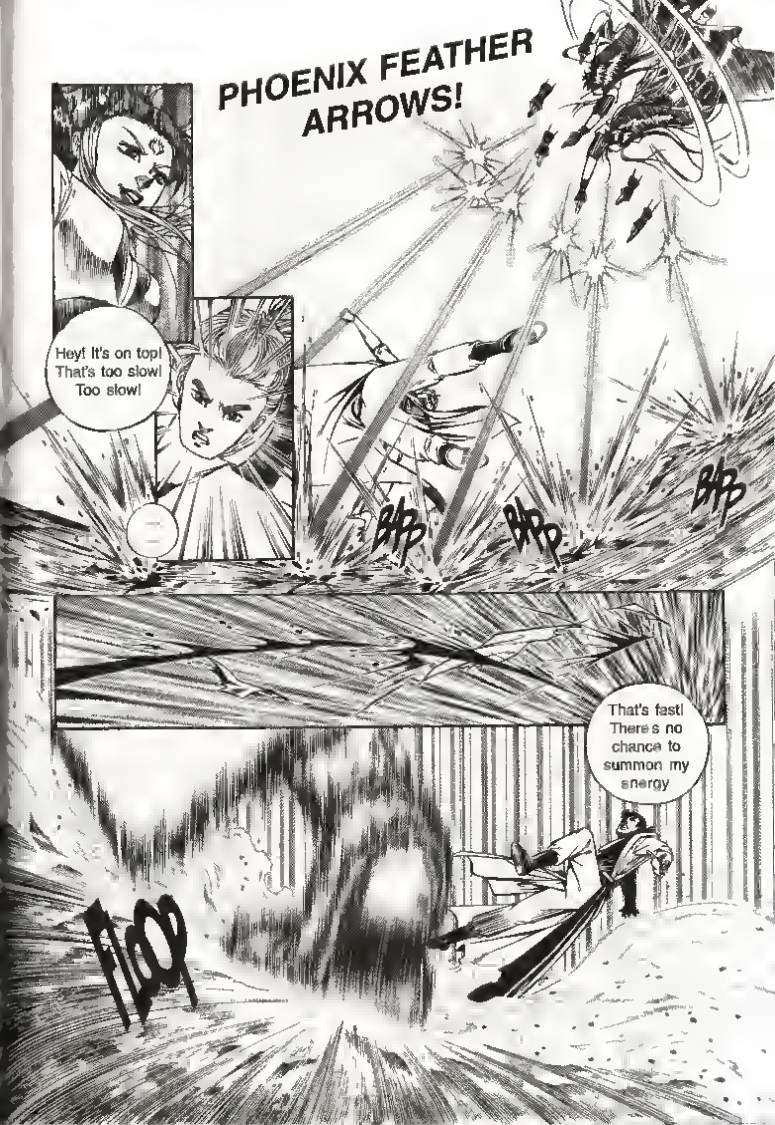


Wei Qi...

Watch my Phoenix Feather Arrows!
SHA

Your spirit arrows are fast! Interesting!
Ha ha, you dodged them!
You're temfic too!
Warming-up is over

Spirit sword!?
Let's see if you can beat me at speed!
Despicable!


PHOENIX FEATHER ARROWS!
Hey! It's on top! That's too slow! Too slow!
BRRP
BRRP
BRRP
That's fast! There's no chance to summon my energy
FLOP

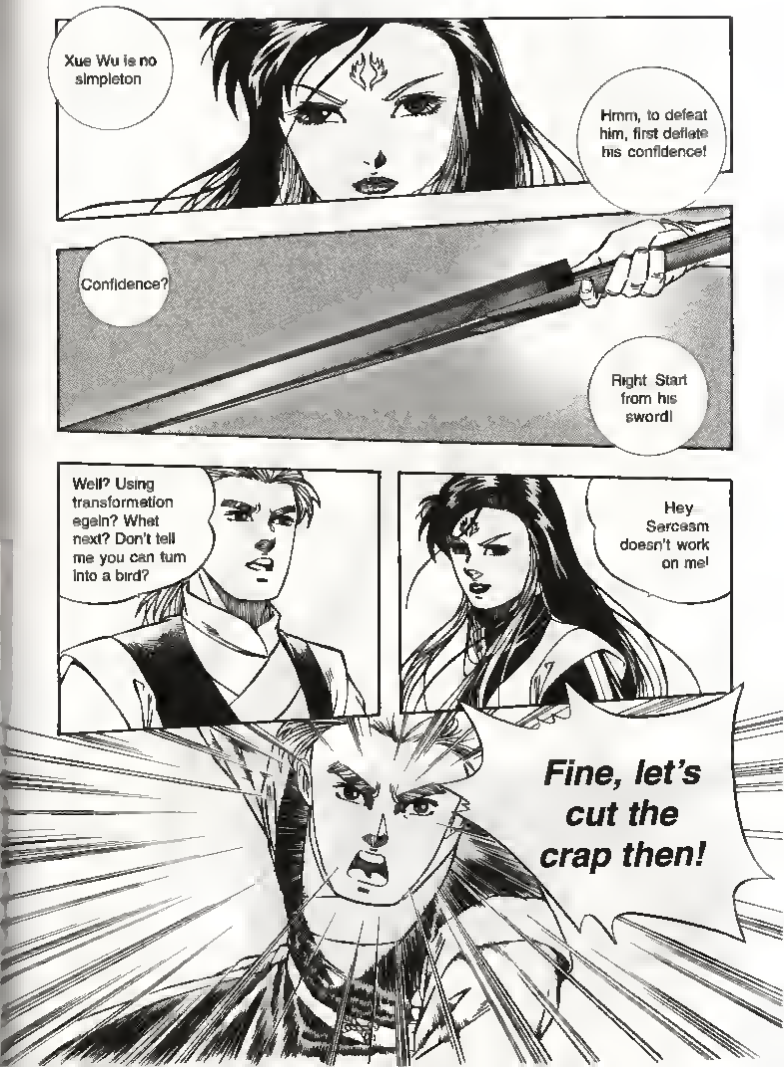
Here's my chance!

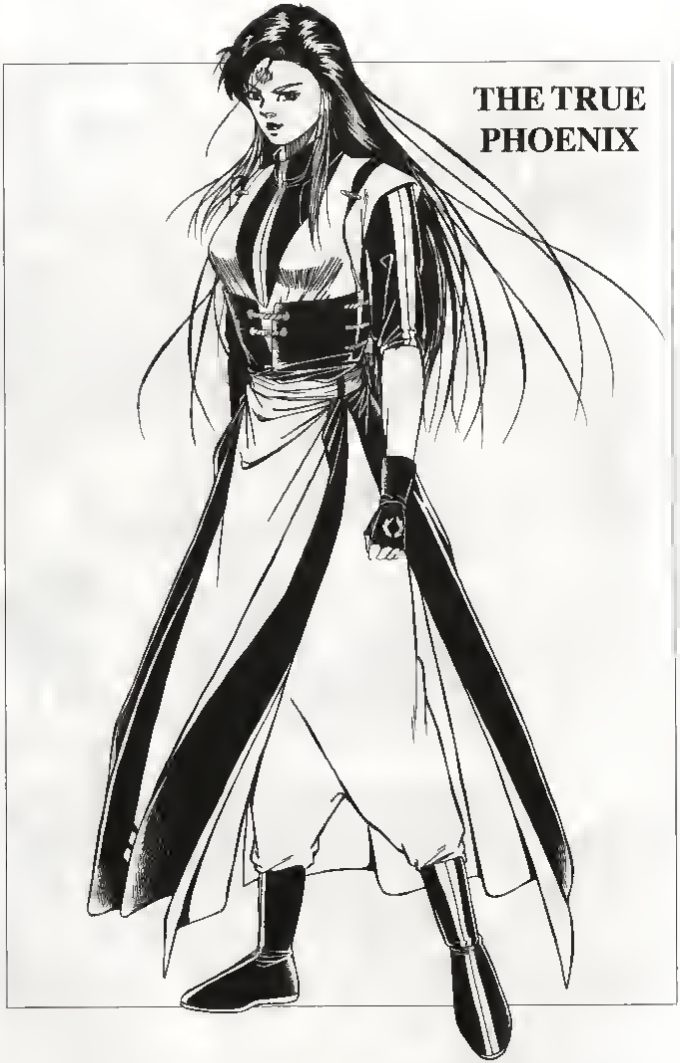
Pant... Since she's watching my hands, I'll use my legs!
First use my hands to distract her.

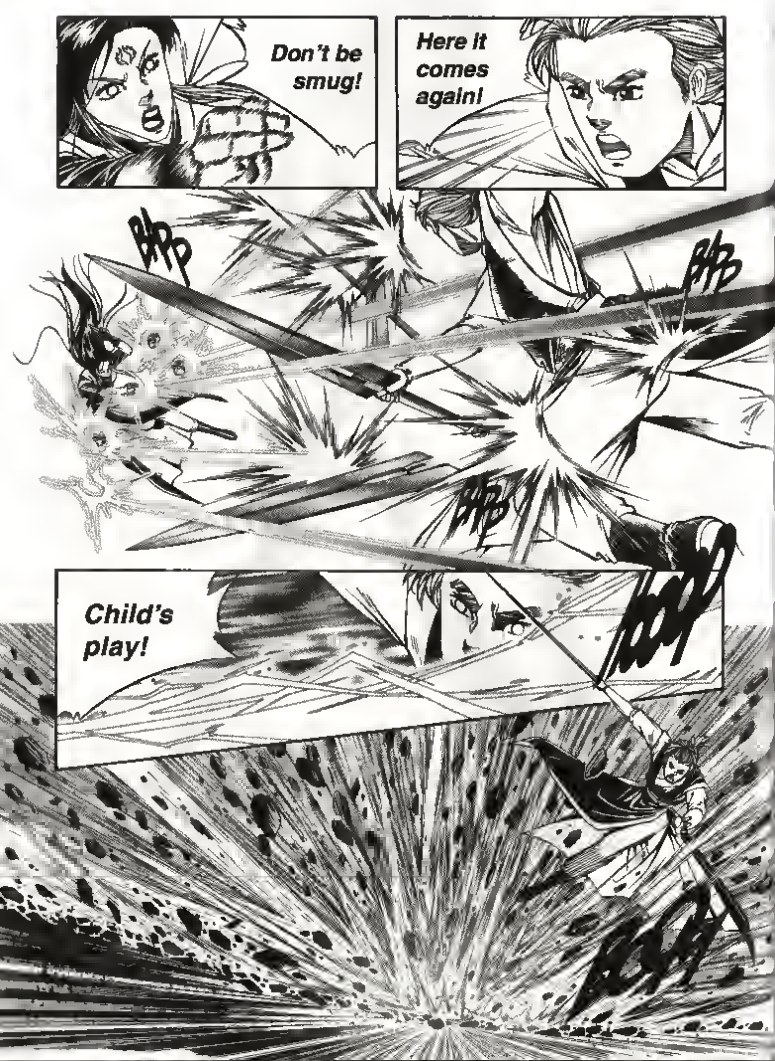
Then...
... change my tactic!

WHIRLWIND
ILLUSION—TURN!
Fantastic!
HEAVEN!

SHUK
Swift as you are, I have got hold of the spirit sword.
Now, it's for real!


Xue Wu is no simpleton
Hmm, to defeat him, first deflate his confidence!
Confidence?
Right. Start from his sword!
Well? Using transformation again? What next? Don't tell me you can turn into a bird?
Hey. Sarcasm doesn't work on me!
Fine, let's cut the crap then!


THE TRUE
PHOENIX

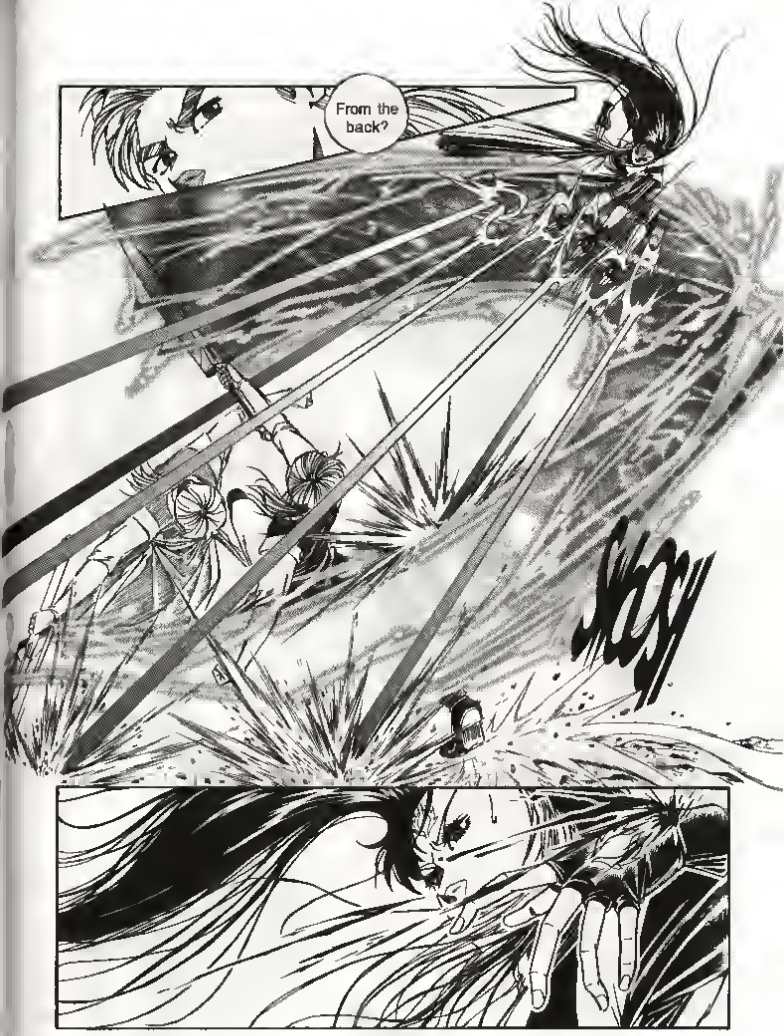

Don't be smug!
Here it comes again!
BRRP
BRRP
BRRP
Child's play!
WOOP

Huh?!
He's using the flying stones to protect himself!
Spirit arrows? I can do it too!

BRP
BRP
BRP
Sis, watch out!
THD
BOP

Ah!
BOOM

He's stronger than I am!
I must not give him a chance to recover his strength!


From the back?
SLASH

Sis, be serious! Get rid of his spirit sword...
... and there's nothing he can do!

Brother, your turn!
I've been waiting!
Oh no!

BOOM

BOOM
Pant... the male is strong and the female, swift
Your fleeing skills are pretty good too
Brother, let me counter his speed
Hoop

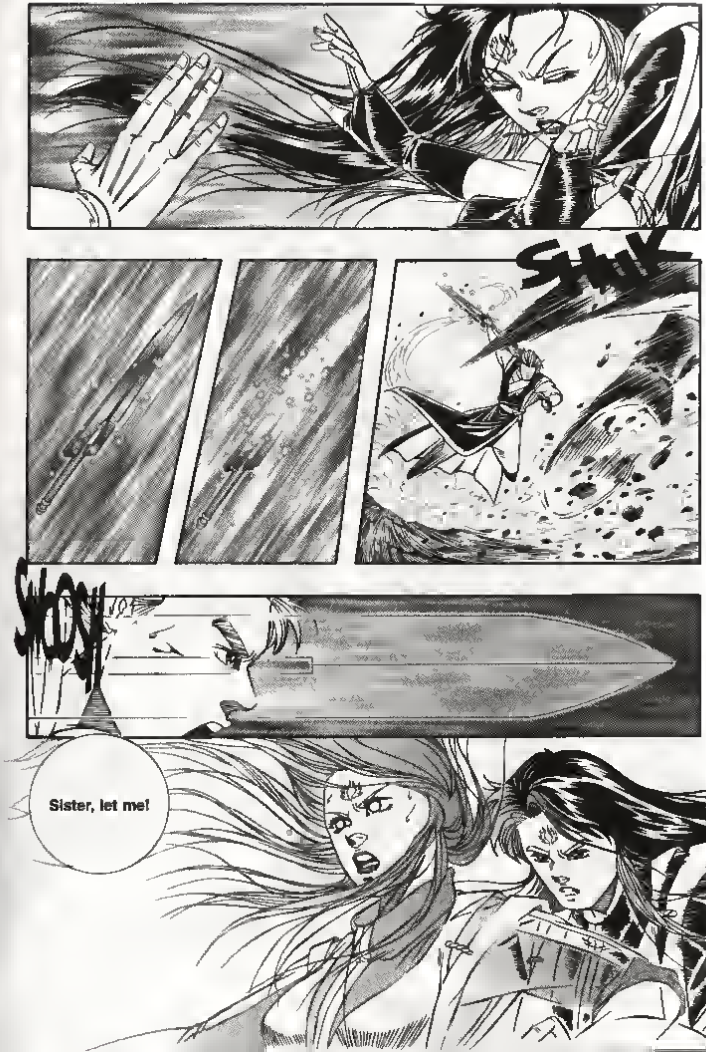
Brother, we've never had so much fun together Thanks to him!
Hmm, not bad!
All the more we shouldn't let him down!
BLIP
BRB
BSH!
Scoundrel!

Exerting your energy will only hasten your death!
I don't need your advice!
Brother, waste no time. Kill him!
Ah!

KRAK
BOOM
Strength and speed they're not easy to deal with!
Fine! Speed against speed, and strength against strength!
SHOOSH

SWOOSH
SWOOSH
Spirit sword?

SKOSH


SHUK
SHOOSH
Sister, let me!

I've been waiting for you!

Good move!
BOOM

BOOM

SKOSH
BOOM

Hey, exerting your energy will hasten your death!

So, that's all to the Red Phoenix?

What other skills do you have? Show them all and waste no time!

Very well, let this be the finale!

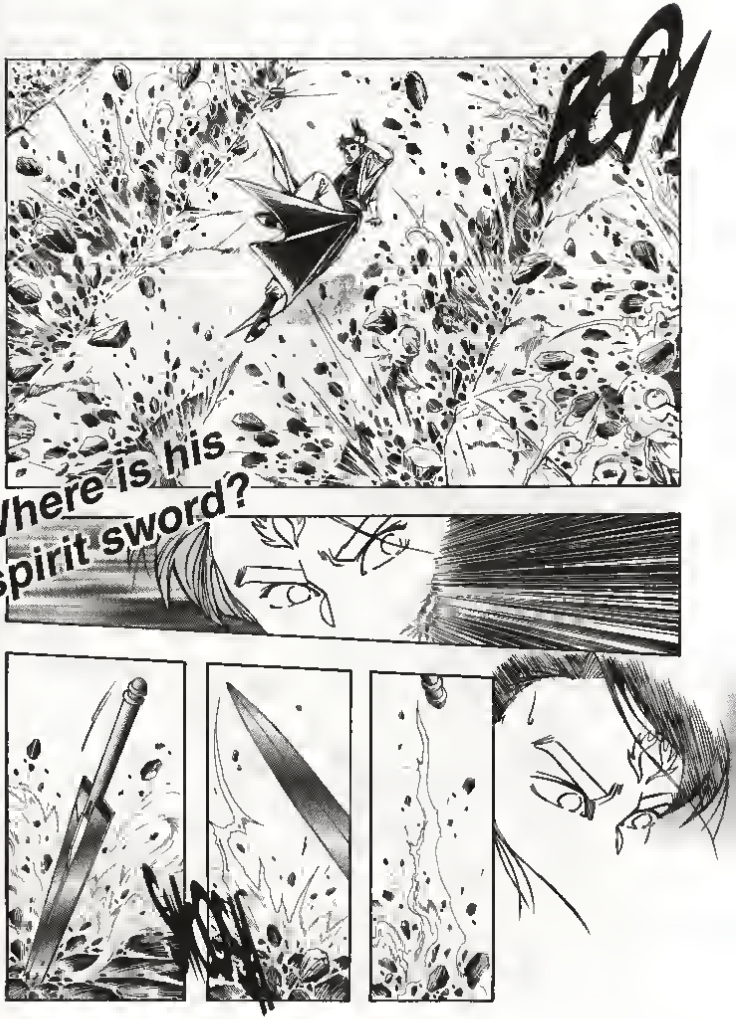
Two shadows? I'd better not underrate their combination!

!!
Watch out!
Good!
I'll take the gamble!
Trying to escape?
SHA

THE PHOENIX SPREADS ITS WINGS!
Too late!
Hoop
KRAK

BOOM
SHA
Brother, seize this chance to finish him off!

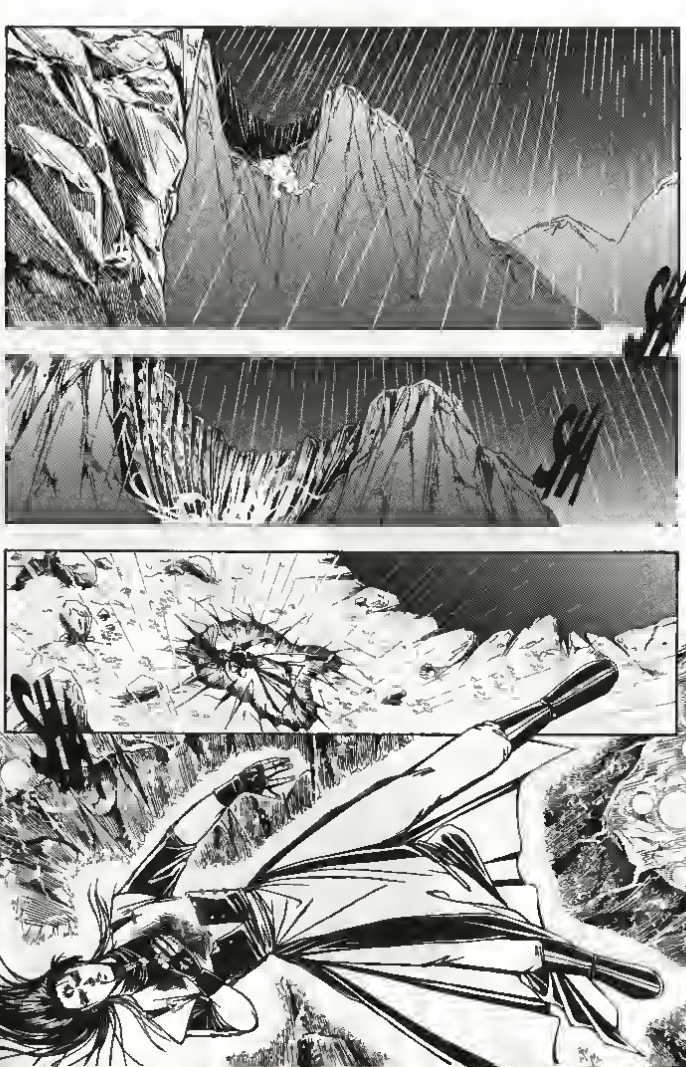
SKOS!
SKOS!
SKOS!
Now!
No!


BOOM
Where is his spirit sword?

Sis!
Loop

SHOOM
HOOP

RCH
BOOM

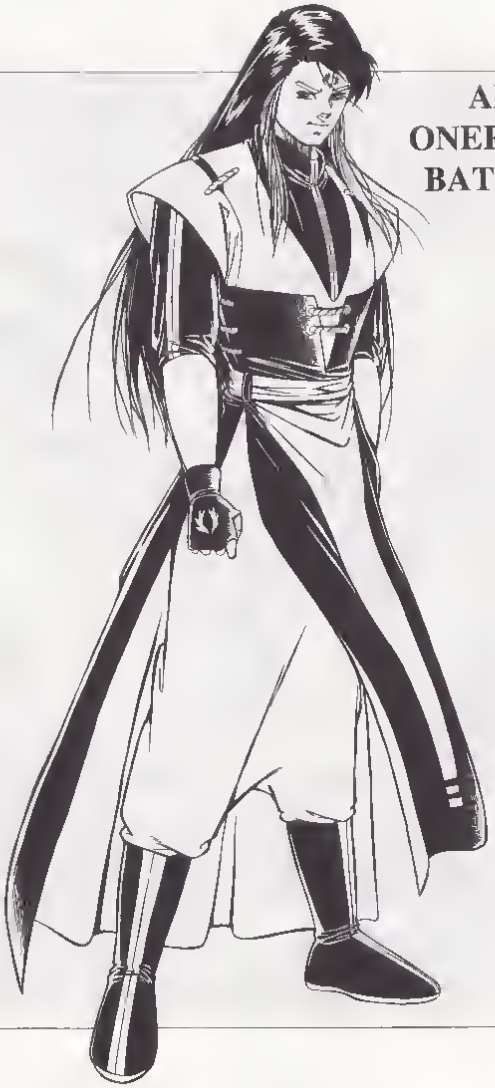

SH
SH
SH

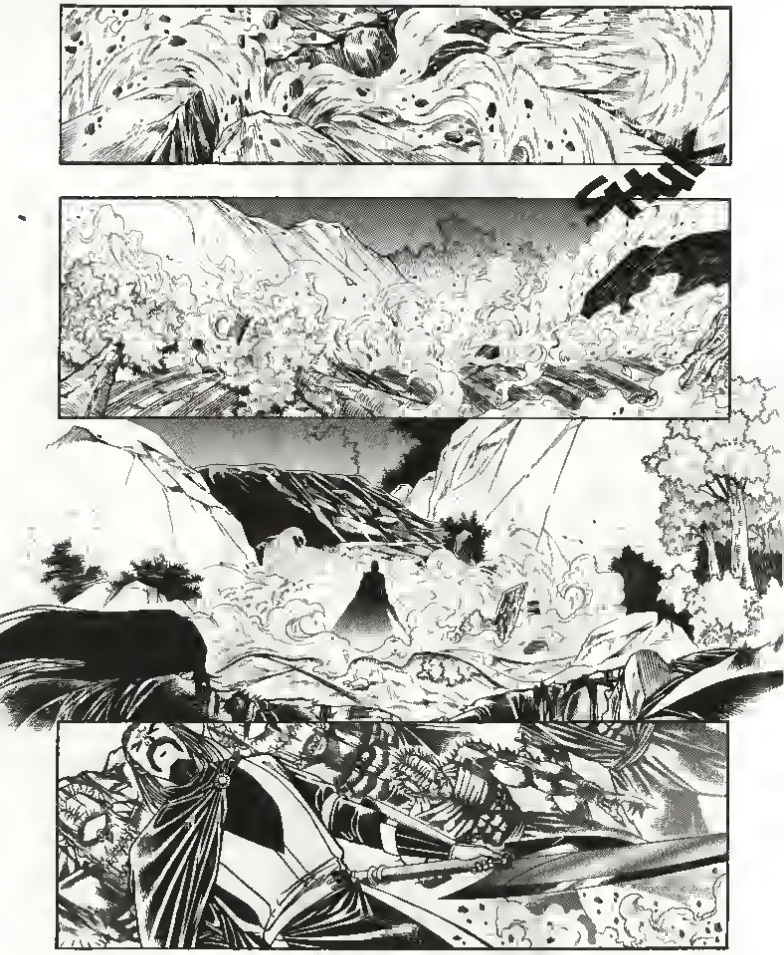
Damn! He saved the spirit sword for this final move!
He won't fall to his death
A pity we can't fight him to the last!
!!
When?

BOOM

# *Quickening*

# AN ONEROUS BATTLE




THUK

Pant...
We've broken through at last!
But... only the eight of us are left... Pant...
Blazing Sun is formidable!
Now Mt Dream-Cloud!

Hee, hee...
Hoop
Hoop

The Eight Sky Ways devised by that old man Dream-Cloud is really somathing!
Though I knew tha weaknass of tha Injury Door, I still had to expend so much energy
If Xuan Hua Sect alone attacked Mt Dream-Cloud,
even if Crow were alive our chances of success would be zero!

CHAOTIC POWERS!
SWOOSH
!!
The aura of the formation has weakened all of a sudden
Is Teacher

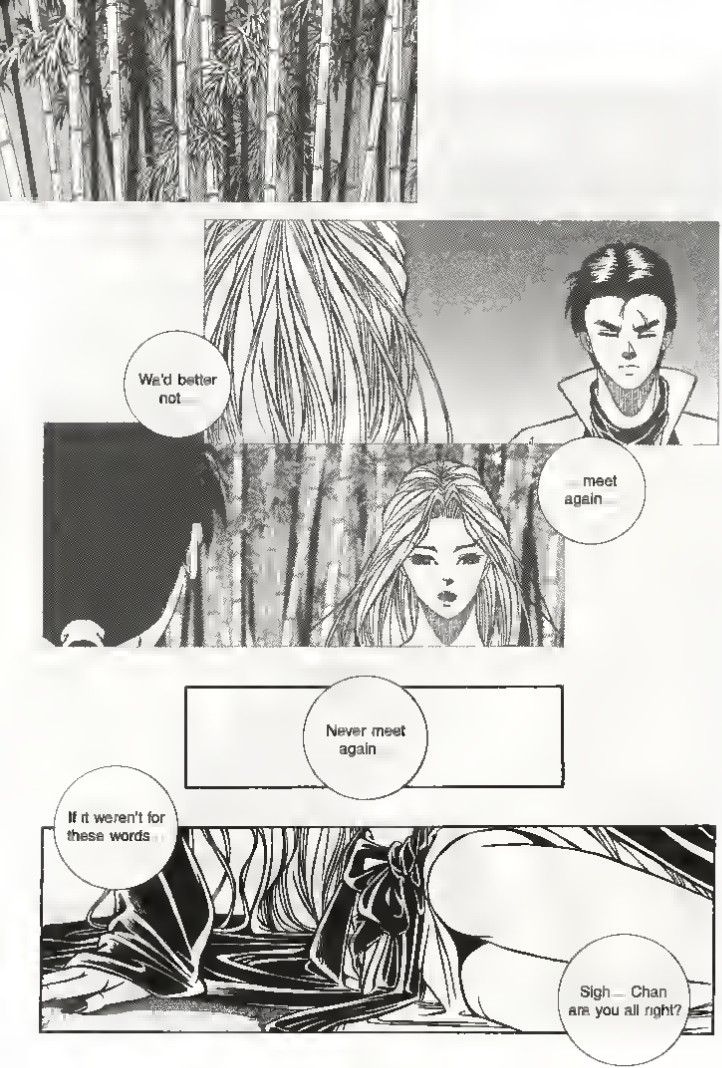
Sky!
Omen of the full moon!
Blazing Sun and Xuan Hua have broken through two of the doors... Two of the doors...

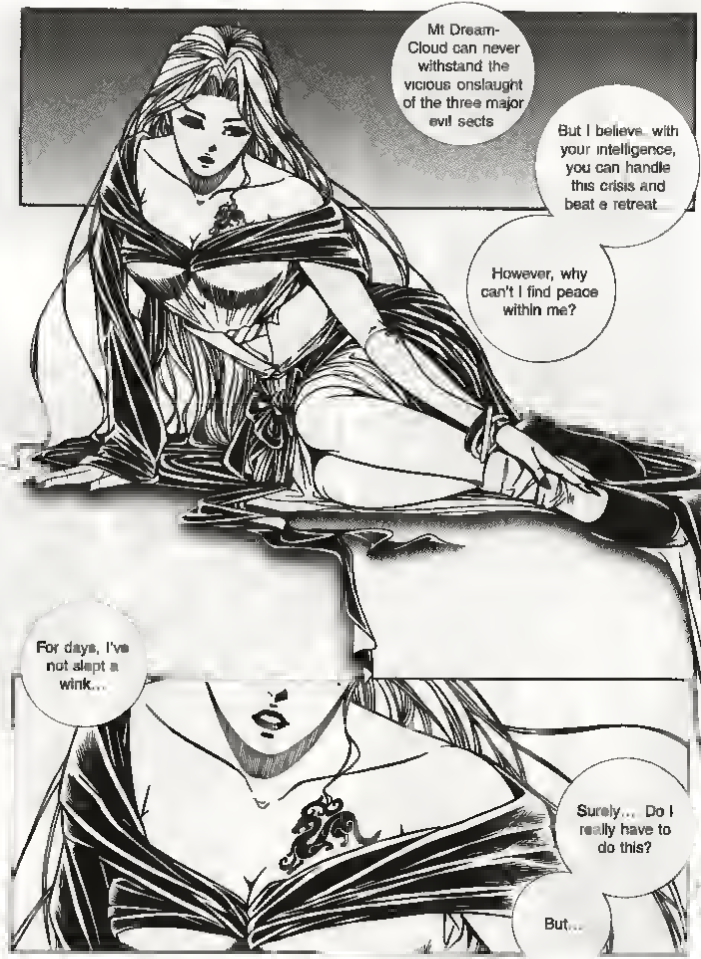
Attention!
Two of the doors of
Eight Sky Ways are down!
Hoop

Let's do our best to
get them all down!

Time flies... The moon has risen again
We launched the attack a day ago. Senior and Xuan Hua have finally succeeded...
But the fact that Xuan Hua took a considerably longer time than Senior
... shows that Xuan Hua is conserving his energy.

Xuan Hua
Divine
Hee, hee
But... all is
still within
my control


We'd better not...
...meet again...
Never meet again
If it weren't for these words...
Sigh... Chan are you all right?


Mt Dream-Cloud can never withstand the vicious onslaught of the three major evil sects
But I believe, with your intelligence, you can handle this crisis and beat a retreat
However, why can't I find peace within me?
For days, I've not slept a wink...
Surely... Do I really have to do this?
But...

My most basic
pride

Senior Chan! We've lost all the Eight Sky Ways!
The casualties?
Apart from the Injury Door at the north, all the others have lost 70% of their man
The Injury Door...
Xuan Hua Divine was extremely cruel... Everyone at the Injury Door was killed including Senior Huo...
Wang Chan looks like Xuan Hua Divine and Blazing Sun are much more formidable than we imagined
Without them, our Eight Sky Ways would never have fallen!
!!

Let's not talk about this
Have all our injured comrades safely retreated?
Yes They're now returning via the various short-cuts
The others are giving them aid along the way
How about our enemy's situation?
Though they overcame our formation,
they lost at least 90% of their men!
Axe the major power who attacked the Door of Fear, was killed in action too

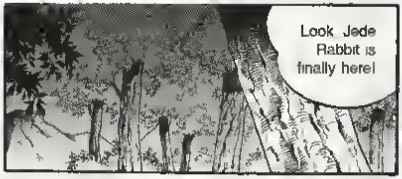
Was Blazing Sun the first to emerge, followed by Xuan Hue Divine?
Yes
Indeed, they're herbouring different motives
Blazing Sun at the south, Xuan Hue at the north and Green Dragon at the east
The rest must be concentrated at the southwest waiting to launch a full-scale attack
Senior Zhao, Senior Li, please lead your teams of swordsmen to the north and south
Join forces with the other teams there and use the Nine Heavenly Swords against Blazing Sun and Xuan Hue Divine!
Yes!
Blazing Sun Xuan Hue Divine

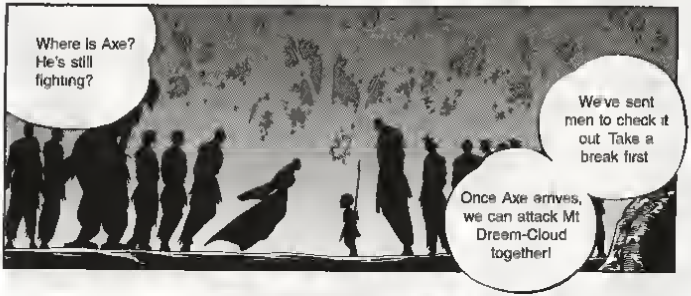
Senior Wu and Wei Qi must have been delayed on their way
Our enemy is splitting us up This must be Moon Monarch's strategy...
Moon Monarch...
Senior Yang, Junior Li, tell our people who are on their way back...
... to leave by the rear tunnel!
Chan! You...
Chuyi, Number Three, Number Six, Junior Xu!
Please gather the injured and the rest of the people, and lead them to the secret tunnel

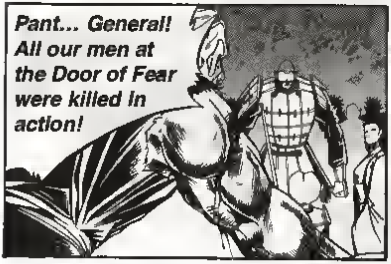
I'll tell you where to assemble after the retreat
Chan, you're giving up Mt Dream-Cloud?
No! I, Weng Chan, shall defend Mt Dream-Cloud against the evil powers!
But your plans of retreat
I'm trying to minimise casualties...
If our Nine Heavenly Swords can't ward off Blazing Sun and Xuan Hua
...it'll be too late to retreat with so many casualties on our side

Pant
Pant
At last!

**Southwest of Mt Dreem-Cloud**




Where is Axe? He's still fighting?
We've sent men to check it out. Take a break first
Once Axe arrives, we can attack Mt Dreem-Cloud together!



My tribesmen
Wait!
I shall make you witness many more deaths!
You shall witness endless deaths!
Ho, ho, ho...!

Is this the so-called Nine Heavenly Swords?
Hey, you think this combination of weak forces can defeat me?
Fat hope!
Xuan Hue Divine, just one team may not defeat you
But you shall have a taste of two teams!
Hee, hee!

Blazing Sun!!
Let our two teams of Nine Heavenly Swords test your powers!
You're welcome!

Why am I feeling so worn-out?

AAGH

Pant
Looks like I'm stuck here...
Let me get to that rock first!
What?!

# The Celestial Zone

An Onerous Battle 14

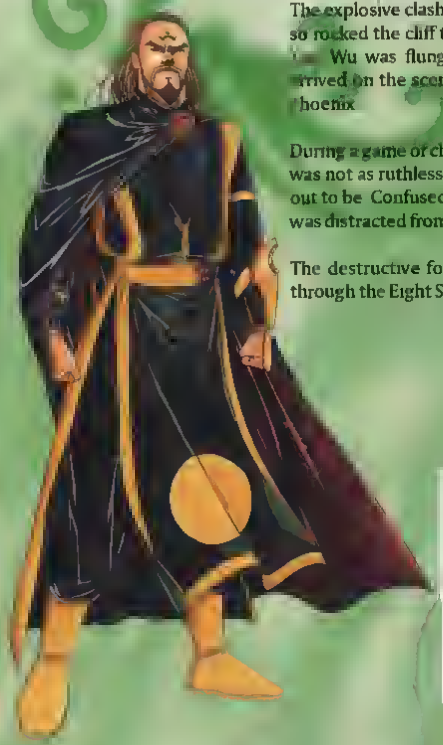
Written & Illustrated by
WEE TIAN BENG

ASIAPAC COMIC

# The Celestial Zone

## An Onerous Battle 14

This series relates the camaraderie and heart-stopping exploits of an extraordinary group of people during the tumultuous Warring States Era. Living in a world of their own — a place known as the Celestial Zone — they worked on cultivating special powers beyond the comprehension of mere mortals. Unfortunately, one group branched into the cultivation of evil power and the showdown between two opposing forces began...



The explosive clash between Xue Wu and Red Phoenix so rocked the cliff they were on that it crumbled, and Xue Wu was flung off the cliff! Just then, Chi Xue arrived on the scene and came upon the injured Red Phoenix.

During a game of chess, Tian Yuan realised that Wei Qi was not as ruthless as Xuan Hua Divine had made him out to be. Confused by this new perception, Tian Yuan was distracted from the game.

The destructive forces led by Moon Monarch broke through the Eight Sky Ways Map.

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